

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

COUNTRY: Austria (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC: Soviet Troops in Camp Spratzern south of St. Poelten, Melk and Klosternenburg

EVALUATION: PLACE OBTAINED: 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT:

DATE OBTAINED: DATE PREPARED: 9 June 1952

REFERENCES:

PAGES: 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE):

REMARKS:

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1. On 8 May 1952, 2 T-34 tanks, 12 trucks, 2 sedans and 1 jeep were noticed in Camp Spratzern south of St. Poelten (O 49/W 33). About 60 soldiers armed with rifles left the camp and marched to the woods west of the camp. Rifle shots were heard from that direction some time later. Sixteen field-grade officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia having a lieutenant colonel as ranking officer and 6 majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia were seen entering and leaving the camp. Jeep [redacted] trucks [redacted] all occupied by personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets; jeep 50X1-HUM driven by a soldier and occupied by a colonel both wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 2 majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; jeep [redacted] truck [redacted] sedan [redacted] and trucks [redacted] all occupied by personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were seen at the camp. 50X1-HUM
2. On 7 May, 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets practiced on two guns in the Birago Kaserne in Melk (O 49/W 68). A senior lieutenant wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and 22 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying rifles entered the installation coming from the direction of the Donauauen. Truck [redacted] driven by a soldier with red-bordered black 50X1-HUM epaulets and occupied by 15 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation and proceeded toward St. Poelten.
3. On 6 May, 5 majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and 2 majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia were noticed at 50X1-HUM the main gate of the Pioneer Kaserne in Klosternenburg (O 49/S 30), where a sentry wore red-bordered black epaulets. Jeep [redacted] and trucks [redacted] all occupied by personnel with red-bordered black epaulets, were seen entering and leaving the installation. Truck [redacted] was parked in the outer yard at the northwest gate where the sentry wore black-bordered black 50X1-HUM epaulets. Truck [redacted] driven by a soldier wearing black-bordered black epaulets entered the outer yard carrying a load of supply boxes. [redacted] Tank truck [redacted] stood at the parking lot for tank trucks which 50X1-HUM adjoined the outer yard to the northeast. Two lieutenant colonels wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and four majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets entered a building southeast of the Pioneer Kaserne. Three majors 50X1-HUM wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia looked out of this building. Two AT guns without muzzle brakes and 16 trucks were parked in the yard

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of the former Pioneer Museum. Trucks

all occupied by personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were seen entering and leaving the Pioneer Kaserne. *

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Comment.

the vehicles

probably belong to the signal battalion and reconnaissance battalion of the 13th Gds Mecz Div. It is possible that components of the signal battalion, which have been observed only in Moedling and Kagran to date, are also stationed in Klosterneuburg. This is also indicated by the service color of the sentry at the northwest gate.

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